## United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Arizona

## Operation and Maintenance Plan For Your Waste Storage Pond or Waste Treatment Lagoon

Cooperator		Date		
Address				
Location: Section	Twn	Range	Field No.	
NRCS Field Office		County		

This conservation practice is an asset to your farm or ranch. This practice will need periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. The life of this practice or system is at least 10 years. The life of this practice can be assured or extended by thorough and timely operation and maintenance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

## **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Maintain all pumps, agitators, piping, valves, and other electrical and mechanical equipment in good operating condition following the manufacturer's recommendations.

Maintain grounding rods and wiring of all electrical equipment in good working condition.

Prior to the storage season, empty the pond to provide storage capacity for the accumulation of animal wastes and precipitation during the storage period.

Fences and/or warning signs shall be maintained to prevent unauthorized human or livestock entry.

Immediately repair any damage from vandalism, vehicles, or livestock to any earthfills, spillway, outlets, or other appurtenances.

Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and controlled application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing or grazing may be needed to control height.

Remove any foreign debris in or adjacent to the waste storage pond.

Contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service for any additional technical assistance that you might need for implementation of this operation and maintenance plan for your structure.

Determine and eliminate causes of settlement or cracks in the earthen sections and repair damage.

Repair spalls, cracks and weathered areas in concrete surfaces.

Repair or replace rusted or damaged metal and paint.

Replace weathered or displaced rock riprap to constructed grade.

Make sure all structure drains are functional and soil is not being transported through the drainage system. The screens and/or rodent guards shall also be kept in place.

Control all rodent or burrowing animals and repair any damage caused by their activity.

Immediately remove any obstructions or blockage of spillways, trash racks, or pipe inlets.

Apply insecticides for insect control as per the manufacturer's recommendations and precautions, as needed.

Operate system in a manner that minimizes odors and air drift.

## **Specific Recommendations For Your Installation**